

**MINUTES OF THE
SELMA CITY COUNCIL
NOVEMBER 18, 2008
5:00 P.M.**

Call to Order

Invocation: Reverend Fred Zeigler, Pastor
Church Street United Methodist Church

Pledge of Allegiance

The Selma City Council met in a regular session in the Council Chambers of City Hall on Monday, November 18, 2008 at 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present during roll call: Council President Pro Tempore Dr. Cecil Williamson and Council members Susan Keith, Dr. Monica Newton, Angela Benjamin, Benny L. Tucker, Bennie R. Crenshaw and Corey Bowie. Others present were Mayor George Evans, City Clerk Lois Williams, City Attorney Jimmy Nunn, City Treasurer Cynthia Mitchell and the Mayor's Executive Assistant Darlene Rudolph. Council President Dr. Geraldine Allen was absent due to illness.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

President Pro Tempore Williamson asked for the approval of the agenda items. Following an addition of an item for Youth Ambassadors presentation, a motion was made by Councilman Bowie and seconded by Councilwoman Newton to approve the agenda items with the addition. The motion was carried with a unanimous (show of hands) vote of the Council members present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

After approval of the agenda, President Pro Tempore Williamson asked for the approval of the minutes of October 28, 2008 Regular meeting. A motion was made by Councilman Tucker and seconded by Councilman Randolph to approve the minutes of October 28, 2008 Regular meeting as written. The motion carried with a unanimous (show of hands) vote of the Council members present.

President Pro Tempore Williamson also asked for the approval of the minutes of November 3, 2008 Organizational meeting. During discussion, Councilwoman Newton stated that she would like to make a correction that she was sworn in by Former Judge Johnny Jones. A motion was then made by Councilman Tucker and seconded by Councilman Randolph to approve the minutes of November 3, 2008 Organizational meeting with corrections. The motion carried with a unanimous (show of hands) vote of the Council members present.

Presentation of new Police Officers: Officer Gibson and Officer Moore

CITIZENS' REQUESTS

Ms. Sherrette Spicer
Re: Progress report on renaming Jeff Davis Avenue to J. L. Chestnut, Jr. Boulevard

Mr. Marcus Hannah, Mrs. Remona Hardy and Ms. Kimberly Davis
Re: Dallas County Juvenile Detention Center

Ms. Deborah Spicer and Mrs. Loraine Pettway
Re: Community Outreach Ministry Organization

Minister Louis Dixon and Mrs. Felicia Owens-Dixon
Re: Police Misconduct

Ms. Joslyn Reddick
Re: Knox Elementary School

Mrs. Molly Gamble
Re: Arts Revive

Mrs. Maggie England
Re: HGHG Adult Daycare Center

Ms. Lillian Daniels
Renaming Broad Street to J. L. Chestnut, Jr. Boulevard

Mrs. Carolyn Bates
Re: Election contest and voting in the City

MAYOR'S REPORT

A. **Employee Service Recognition.** Mayor Evans presented service recognition certifications to the following employees: Roy Barlow, Inert Landfill, *10 years of dedicated service* to the City of Selma.

B. **Personnel Booklet.** Mayor Evans stated that the personnel booklet has been prepared by Ms. Jones and is being distributed to the Council for review. Mayor Evans further stated that he will wait to hear from the Council as to when they would like to discuss the personnel manual and its adoption.

C. **Council Members Email Addresses - Internet Usage Policy.** Mayor Evans stated that he would like to have the ability to email the Council on issues concerning the City. Mayor Evans further stated that he would like to the Council to set up email with "Selma.gov" and there is a form enclosed which spells this process out, and asked that the Council would please fill this form out and they can, through IT, receive an email address from the City of Selma, which would allow him and other department heads to email the Council on a day-to-day basis with information as it relates to what is going on in the City.

D. **Ward Incident Reports.** Mayor Evans stated that the ward updates and percentage reports are included in the packages for Council review.

E. **Remodeling of the Mayor's Office.** Mayor Evans stated that there is no "hand out" on this item at this time, but since the Council would be meeting on next week, he would like to come back to the Council to ask for approval to do some repainting in the office, purchase one or two pieces of furniture and possibly change the door location. Mayor Evans stated that he would have a figure for the Council on next week.

F. **Blue Cross/Blue Shield Insurance.** Mayor Evans stated that he would like to ask Ms. Pauline Williams to come forward to address the Council regarding the insurance program. Mayor Evans stated that he plans to meet with all employees on Thursday at 9:00 a.m. to give them the opportunity to review this information and cast their vote as to which option they would like to select. Ms. Williams, Insurance Analyst, addressed the Council with a brief overview regarding the Blue Cross/Blue Shield Insurance program, which is renewal effective 12/01/08, also stating that the City will experience a really large rate increase.

G. **Resolution - #R130-08/09 - Inert Landfill Obligations.** Mayor Evans discussed briefly as per said resolution to transfer the sum of \$220,000.00 from the Inert Landfill account 6.1010.0 to the City's General Fund account 1.1010.02 to meet mid-month financial obligations, and said funds will be repaid to the landfill by the first week in January 2009. A motion was made by Councilwoman Crenshaw and seconded by Councilman Tucker to approve the said resolution. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present.

Mayor Evans asked Ms. Charlotte Griffeth, Planning and Development Director, to come forward to present the following resolutions, which she read and briefly discussed while addressing the Council:

H. **Resolution - #R116-08/09 - Brownfield Assessment Grant.** Ms. Griffeth read the said resolution in its entirety. A motion was made by Councilwoman Crenshaw and seconded by Councilwoman Keith to approve the said resolution to apply for a Brownfield Assessment Grant through the Environmental Protection Agency that addresses hazardous substances and petroleum and shall have a total value of \$400,000.00, which does not include a requirement for a non-federal cash match. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present.

I. **Resolution - #R118-08/09 - DHL Analytical Laboratory, Inc.** Ms. Griffeth read the said resolution in its entirety. A motion was made by Councilman Randolph and seconded by Councilwoman Crenshaw to approve the said resolution to authorize the City of Selma to enter into a professional environmental services contract with DHL Analytical Laboratory, Inc. exclusively for technical support during and for the Brownfield's grant period ending September 30, 2009, which shall be paid from the designated Brownfields grant funds in the amount of \$36,000.00, payable in equal amounts of \$3,000.00 per month for twelve (12) months. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present.

J. **Resolution - #R121-08/09 - Selma Dallas Prevention Collaborative.** Ms. Griffeth read the said resolution in its entirety. A motion was made by Councilman Tucker and seconded by Councilwoman Crenshaw to approve the said resolution to authorize the City to serve as the fiscal agent for Selma Dallas Prevention Collaborative for a period of not to exceed the herein referenced contract period ending April 2009; with funding in the amount of \$10,000.00 for the Alabama Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present.

MAYOR'S REPORT

K. **Resolution - #R128-08/09 - Arts Revive.** Ms. Griffeth read the said resolution in its entirety. Following a brief discussion, this item died for lack of a motion to the floor. Councilwoman Crenshaw stated that the Council would revisit it at the next Council meeting.

L. **Resolution - #R129-08/09 - Mainstreet Application.** Ms. Griffeth read the said resolution in its entirety. A motion was made by Councilman Tucker and seconded by Councilman Randolph to submit an application for funding in the amount of \$10,000.00, to the Alabama Historical Commission with a cash match of (50%) to the Downtown Selma Association/Mainstreet Program to be allocated via the Grant Match fund line item. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present.

M. **Revenue Comparison for FY 2004 thru 2008.** Mayor Evans stated that he would to address the Council's attention to "C9", which has to do with the budget. Mayor Evans stated that this information goes from the year 2004 through 2008, in terms of comparisons and variances, which show how our revenues have declined over the years and each category shows how money was received. Mayor Evans stated that the last sheet show a chart, which tells you which revenues received the most money and sales tax is our greatest income and others have dwindled. Mayor Evans further stated that he would have all expected expenditures available for the Council on next Tuesday, as well as a projection of how much money we can expect to have in action during the FY 2008-2009, so he can begin the process of trying to make the cuts necessary in terms of expenditures.

N. **Expenses for the Selma Animal Shelter.** Mayor Evans stated that this information relates to how much the City of Selma has given the Animal Shelter. Mayor Evans stated that \$2,100.00 per month is received from Dallas County, totaling \$25,200.00 annually; however, the City has actually spent, including that amount, \$171,780.50, which is a breakdown for gas, power, AT&T, roofing, operations cost, and employee salaries and fringe benefits. During discussion, Mayor Evans further stated that he would encourage the citizens of Selma to support the Animal Shelter by giving donations to help with the expense and he cannot say to the Council how much more we can do until we get a chance to look at the budget.

O. **Good Samaritan Hospital Operations Report - October 2007 thru September 2008.** Mayor Evans stated that he has given the Council a copy of the revenues of the Good Samaritan, and he stated "as you can see we are in the hole", as we were in the past and he has asked the Council to forego canceling the contract with them because he has written at least four letters to legislator, Congressman Artur Davis and Senator Sanders to ask for additional help in terms of trying to bring the Rural Health program to Selma. During further discussion, Mayor Evans stated that the City needs approximately \$250,000.00 to get them here, as "seed money" for them to operate, and a decision has to be made by February 2009 whether we will maintain this contract. Mayor Evans asked the Council to please allow him to continue to work through this process until all possibilities are explored and if there are no answers, then he would have to ask the Council to cease the operations. Mrs. Mills addressed the Council regarding the UAB initiative.

P. **Heating and Air Conditioning Unit for Council Chambers.** Mayor Evans stated that, "as you know" there has been a really big problem with heating and air in the Council Chambers. During discussion, Mayor Evans stated that a proposal has been obtained for the repairs in the amount of \$6,900.00, and this company has the franchise for this equipment; he stated he would like to ask the Council if their desire is to continue this item until the next meeting or approve tonight. Councilwoman Crenshaw stated that she feels those Council members with Oil Lease money should take a look at handling this, so that it will not tamper with the general fund. The Council concurred, and President Pro Tempore Williamson asked Ms. Mitchell to let each Council member know how much money they have and on next Tuesday to divide \$6,900.00 between the Council.

Q. **Broad Street Highway Project.** Mayor Evans stated that he would just like to let the Council and citizens know, for informational purposes, that a lot of work is being done by the highway department to repair the highway, due to cracks in the highway on Broad Street, with new joints with a new type of material, which hopefully will make it last longer.

R. **Employee Thanksgiving Dinner - Monday, November 24, 2008.** Mayor Evans stated that he would like to invite each Council member to come and be a part of the employee Thanksgiving Dinner, on Monday, November 24th at the Convention Center, between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

S. **Christmas Parade - Saturday, December 6, 2008.** Mayor Evans stated that the Christmas Parade is Saturday, December 6th and in the past, Council members have always been a part of the parade and he asks that the Council would contact Mrs. Patty Sexton if you will be attending.

T. **Christmas Tree Lighting, Thursday, December 4, 2008.** Mayor Evans stated that the Christmas Tree Lighting will be held on December 4th, which is generally held on that afternoon around 4:30 or 5:00 p.m., but he will provide the correct time to the Council at a later date.

MAYOR'S REPORT

U. **Upcoming Holidays.** Mayor Evans stated that the Christmas holiday is actually on December 24th and 25th on the calendar for our employees to be off; and the question is if the 26th, Friday, will be a holiday as well. Mayor Evans further stated that he is not asking for a decision on tonight, but he has spoken with Ms. Mitchell regarding payroll and Mr. Hicks regarding trash pickup and ask that the Council if Wednesday, Thursday and Friday would be a holiday. President Pro Tempore Williamson stated that this would be placed on the agenda for next Tuesday. Mayor Evans also stated that New Year's holiday is always one day, January 1st.

V. **Annual Calendar.** Mayor Evans stated that the Council has been given a draft of the annual calendar of events for the City of Selma to give the Council and employees an advance notice of all the days off; holidays, etc, for this fiscal year; he stated we are working on getting this together and if the Council has any ideas or events, it will be included, and this will become a web page item once finalized.

W. **Monthly Financial Report.** Mayor Evans stated that Ms. Mitchell has included in the Council's packages, a monthly financial report and ask if there are any questions. President Pro Tempore Williamson stated that the Council will review this information and have questions on next Tuesday.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

A. **Procedure for Renaming Streets.** Attorney Nunn stated that he has placed copies of the procedure in the Council packages. Attorney Nunn stated that this procedure was adopted in 2006 and this procedure should be adhered to, although it is not a written policy or resolution, but in is recorded in the minutes in which the City Council approved.

B. **Ordinance - O102-08/09 & O103-08/09 - Rezoning.** Attorney Nunn stated that Harold Speir appeared before the City Council along with Dr. Aksut; both individuals annexed two pieces of property into the City of Selma that is located on highway 80/Highland Avenue. Attorney Nunn further stated that after the property is annexed, it has to appear before the Planning Commission and a recommendation has to be made, their recommendation is that the property be zoned as a B2. Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Councilwoman Crenshaw and seconded by Councilwoman Newton to place the said ordinance on first reading. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present. Councilman Randolph was absent from the Chamber when the vote was taken.

C. **Municipal Election to Provide for the Election & Operation of the Selma City School Board of Education.** Attorney Nunn stated that this document, U.S. Department of Justice, was presented to the previous Council, as it relates to converted to an elected school board, asking the Justice Department to provide approval to hold an election; "referendum to allow the citizens of the City of Selma the opportunity to vote on whether it is the citizens' desire to change the existing method of selecting the Selma City School Board of Education by appointment to an election of school board members by popular vote of the citizens of Selma. Attorney Nunn further stated that this information was submitted to the Justice Department about a month ago; he is still awaiting an answer, and as soon as there is an answer, he will report back to the City Council, and the next step would be to hold an election. Attorney Nunn stated that he is providing this Council with this information, which is the submission that was sent to the Justice Department, to bring the Council up to date on this issue.

D. **Rules and Procedures - Ordinance #O102-04/05.** Attorney Nunn stated that several Council members have asked for copies of this information and these are the rules that the Council are operating under at this time. Attorney Nunn stated that during the Organizational Meeting the Council adopted the same rules that have been used for the last four years (2004-2008). Attorney Nunn further asked that the new Council make themselves familiar with these rules, because these are the rules that we are operating under, as well as all attached amendments, which are Ordinance #O102-05/06 and #O107-07/08.

E. **Jane Walker - School Board Resignation Letter.** Attorney Nunn state that he is in receipt of a notice from the School Board Attorney Katy Campbell regarding the School Board resignation letter from Jane Walker stating her intentions to leave her position on the school board. Attorney Nunn further stated that Attorney Campbell stated she would present this letter to the School Board and allow them to take action, and then bring to the Council to accept the resignation, but it will come back to the Council so that they can proceed from there. President Pro Tempore Williamson stated there is a procedure for that.

F. **Dismissal of Municipal Election Contest.** Attorney Nunn stated that the lawsuit that was filed against Concordia College; Leesa James; the Board of Registrars; the City of Selma; Mayor James Perkins, Jr.; Perkins Campaign Committee; was dismissed. Attorney Nunn further stated that case was voluntarily dismissed by Mrs. Bates for several underlined reasons.

G. **Resolution #R135-08/09 - Appointment of Planning Commission Member.** Attorney Nunn stated that there are nine members on the Planning Commission Board, who deal with zoning of municipalities; the Mayor or his designee, one administrative official appointed by the Mayor; a member

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

appointed by the City Council; and the Mayor appoints six other persons to serve on this Board. Attorney Nunn further stated that a resolution has been prepared to address the one member appointed by the City Council, which has to be a City Council person, and further read the said resolution in its entirety. President Pro Tempore asked if there are any nominations at this time. A nomination was offered by Councilman Randolph to appoint Councilwoman Susan Keith to the Planning Commission Board. No other nominations were offered. A motion was then made by Councilman Randolph and seconded by Councilwoman Crenshaw to close the nomination with Councilwoman Susan Keith being the sole nominee for appointment to the Planning Commission Board. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a majority vote of the Council members present. There were seven affirmative votes and one abstention. Councilwoman Keith abstained from voting.

H. **Resolution #R131-08/09 & #R132-08/09 - Appointment of Municipal Judges.** Attorney Nunn stated that he has attached to the said resolution, a copy of section 12-14-30 of the Alabama Code, as it relates to the judges, which he then read to the Council. Attorney Nunn stated that there are two municipal judges and Section B states that the term of office for each full time municipal judge shall be for a term of four years; and the term of office for a municipal judge other than a full time municipal judge shall be for a term of two years, stating that the Council appointed in 2006 and these terms expired on September 30, 2008 for the two municipal judge we have who are Judge Haygood and Judge Chestnut. Attorney Nunn further stated that these appoints are made by the City Council and Section C states that the Mayor shall designate a presiding judge of the two. During discussion, Councilwoman Keith stated that the Council and the Attorney is aware that her husband is the City Prosecutor and she has spoken with Ken Smith who is the lawyer with the League of Municipalities, and he has informed her that that it would be ok for her to vote in matters regarding the judges. A motion was made by Councilwoman Newton and seconded by Councilman Bowie and Councilwoman Crenshaw to nominate Judge Prince Chestnut for reappoint as one of the municipal judges. A motion was then made by Councilwoman Keith and seconded by Councilwoman Benjamin to close the nomination with Judge Chestnut being the sole nominee for appointment as Municipal Judge. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present. A motion was made by Councilwoman Crenshaw and seconded by Councilman Randolph and Councilman Bowie to nominate Judge Joseph Haygood, III for the reappoint as one of the municipal judges. A motion was then made by Councilwoman Keith and seconded by Councilwoman Newton to close the nomination with Judge Haygood being the sole nominee for appointment as Municipal Judge. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present.

I. **Resolution #R133-08/09 & #R134-08/09 - Appointment of City Clerk and City Treasurer.** Attorney Nunn stated that, again, as per Alabama State Code 11-43-3, which he then read to the Council; to appoint a Treasurer and Clerk; presently the City Treasurer is Ms, Cynthia Mitchell and the City Clerk is Ms. Lois Williams; and whomever is appointed would serve a term of four years or until the next election. During discussion, President Pro Tempore Williamson stated that he talked to Dr. Allen on yesterday, who actually called him and stated that "she would like for us to continue that appointment for another week until she could be here next Tuesday." Councilwoman Crenshaw stated as it is practical that the Council just voted for the two judges, and just as practical as it was that we have to set a Pro Tempore, she feels this is practical as well and the Council needs to move forward with these two positions. A motion was then made by Councilwoman Crenshaw and seconded by Councilman Randolph, as per resolution #R133-08/09, to appoint Ms. Lois Williams as the City Clerk in the City of Selma. President Pro Tempore Williamson passed the gavel stating that he merely conveyed what Dr. Allen said and he would really ask the Council to "put this off" until next Tuesday until she could be here, and if she is not here next Tuesday, then let's move forward; that is just out of respect for her, he further stated. A roll call vote was taken and the motion failed for lack of a majority vote of the Council members present. President Pro Tempore Williams stated that motion is lost, which is not necessarily a vote against Ms. Williams, just to "put it off" until next Tuesday. There were two affirmative votes, five nay votes and one abstention. President Pro Tempore Williamson and Council members Susan Keith, Monica Newton, Benny Tucker and Corey Bowie each cast a nay vote. Councilwoman Benjamin abstained from voting. As a matter of record, she stated, a motion was made by Councilwoman Crenshaw and seconded by Councilman Randolph, as per resolution #R134-08/09, to appoint Ms. Cynthia Mitchell as the City Treasurer for the City of Selma. A roll call vote was taken and the motion failed for lack of a majority vote of the Council members present.

J. **Alcoholic Beverage License - Jamuna Food Mart, Inc.** Attorney Nunn stated that the Council has been given a copy of a notice of transfer for Jamuna Food Mart, Inc., located at 215 Highland; Shell Food Mart #2, located at 602 Broad Street; as well as Playland Bowl, located at 3000 Citizens Parkway. A motion was made by Councilwoman Crenshaw and seconded by Councilman Randolph to place all three licenses on first reading until the next meeting. The motion carried with a unanimous (show of hands) vote of the Council members present.

K. **Ward Maps.** Attorney Nunn briefly discussed and distributed copies of the all ward maps to the Council, he stated, for informational purposes.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

L. **Procedure to Install Speed Breakers on a City Street.** Attorney Nunn briefly discussed and distributed copies of the procedures to install speed breakers to the Council, asking new Council to become familiar with these procedures, he stated, for informational purposes.

M. **Procedure for Vacating a City Street and/or Alley.** Attorney Nunn briefly discussed and distributed copies of the procedures for vacating a city street or alley to the Council, stating several have been done in the past.

N. **Procedure to Demolish or Repair Dilapidated/Unsafe Structures.** Attorney Nunn briefly discussed and distributed copies of the procedures to demolish or repair dilapidated/unsafe structures in the City, he stated, so that the Council would be aware of this procedure from the beginning, because there are a lot of other processes that have to take place prior to coming before the Council.

O. **Procedure for Abatement of Weeds.** Attorney Nunn briefly discussed and distributed copies of the procedures for abatement of weeds to the Council, which, he stated, goes through Mr. Henry Hicks, as it relates to getting the weeds cut down.

- President Pro Tempore Williamson stated that it has been brought to his attention by Councilman Randolph that Mr. Bruce Holmes has arrived at the meeting, who is on agenda's citizens' request, however, he believes it will take a motion to allow him to speak at this time. A motion was made by Councilman Randolph and seconded by Councilwoman Keith to allow Mr. Holmes to speak for five minutes. The motion carried with a unanimous (show of hands) vote of the Council members present.

Mr. Bruce Holmes
Re: Renaming Jeff Davis Avenue to J. L. Chestnut, Jr. Boulevard

BUSINESS ITEMS:

I. SELMA WATER WORKS AND SEWER BOARD APPOINTMENTS

President Pro Tempore Williamson asked Attorney Nunn regarding the terms of the Water Board member; whether they are four years or six years. Attorney Nunn stated that the law says that the members are appointed for six years or for the term of office for which they are a member of the Council. He stated the terms do not change, in that the terms are six years. President Pro Tempore Williamson asked that if someone is elected, they would serve four years and if they are reelected, they would serve two more years? Attorney Nunn stated that he concurred. Following a brief discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to elect one member or maybe two at the next Council meeting.

II. RENAMING JEFF DAVIS AVENUE TO J. L. CHESTNUT, JR. BOULEVARD

President Pro Tempore Williamson stated that President Dr. Geraldine Allen would be appointing members to the Administrative Committee and this matter would be referred to the Administrative Committee. Following a brief discussion, Councilwoman Newton read the procedures for renaming streets and further stated that she would suggest that this procedure be used, but to be revised to reflect the same process as the speed bumps procedure, which Attorney Nunn distributed to the Council, with respect to how votes are counted. President Pro Tempore Williamson stated if she could put this in writing, it could be discussed and changed at the next meeting.

III. REID CAIN'S LEGAL BILLS

President Pro Tempore Williamson stated that information was given to the Council where the "old Council" approves the payment of these bills, however, there was no figure and the Council would come back when the bill was actually received and the bill has been received, which is approximately \$5,200.00. At the request of Councilwoman Crenshaw, Attorney Nunn read as per AG's Opinion obtained during a previous legal payment issue. Following discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Tucker and seconded by Councilwoman Newton to pay the legal bills of Former Councilman Reid Cain in the amount of \$5,200.00. An amended motion was made by Councilwoman Crenshaw and seconded by Councilman Randolph to table this item until everyone really understands what they are voting on. A roll call vote was taken and the motion failed for lack of a majority vote of the Council members present. There were four affirmative votes and four nay votes. Council President Pro Tempore Williamson, Dr. Monica Newton, Benny Tucker and Corey Bowie each cast a nay vote. President Pro Tempore Williamson stated that the motion fails on a tie vote and now the Council would vote on the main motion. Following further discussion, a roll call vote was then taken on the original motion to pay the legal bills of Former Councilman Reid Cain in the amount of \$5,200.00; and the motion passed with a majority vote of the Council members present. There were five affirmative votes and three nay votes. President Pro Tempore Williamson and Council members Susan Keith, Dr. Monica Newton, Benny Tucker and Corey Bowie cast affirmative votes and Council members Angela Benjamin, Samuel Randolph and Bennie R. Crenshaw each cast a nay vote.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

IV. JOB FAIR

Councilman Randolph stated that a lot of businesses in the community are closing down and he feels that as Council members, they need to do something to help our people, and asked if a committee could be developed to hold a City Job Fair and invite companies to come to Selma. Councilman Randolph further stated that he has done some research on this matter and encourage the Council to come together to "brainstorm" this issue. President Pro Tempore Williamson asked if he wanted President Dr. Allen to appoint a committee to address this issue. Councilman Randolph concurred.

V. LIVE RADIO BROADCAST

President Pro Tempore Williamson stated that "by way of background" the amount to conduct live radio broadcast is \$7,000.00, and last year five of the Council members paid for this out of their discretionary funds. He further stated that this is a voluntary matter and if the Council desires to keep the broadcast on the radio, they would need to pay for it. Councilman Bowie stated that he would like to keep it, but asked if it could be a bid item to other radio stations as well. President Pro Tempore Williamson stated it could be handed as the Council desires. A motion was made by Councilman Bowie and seconded by Councilwoman Benjamin to get bid proposals for the live radio broadcast from other stations to give them an opportunity also, for a one year broadcast contract. Following a brief discussion, the motion carried with a unanimous (show of hands) vote of the Council members present.

VI. ELECTED OFFICIAL'S PRAYER DAY

Councilman Bowie stated that due to the fact that there is a new transition with new Council members he was hoping to have a "Prayer Day" from 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. on Monday, December 1, 2008 at City Hall Council Chambers and ask each of our ministers to come by and pray over us, and also have citizens from the community to come in. The Council concurs.

VII. AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK

Councilman Bowie stated that this is American Education Week (November 17, 2008 - November 22, 2008) and he would like to encourage his colleagues to visit the schools in their wards to try to promote education.

VIII. STANDING COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

President Pro Tempore Williamson stated that he believes President Dr. Allen's plan was to distribute a list of the committees and allow the Council members to say which committee they desire to serve on and then she would be making the appointments for the Standing Committees.

IX. FY 2008-2009 BUDGET

Councilman Bowie stated that he had asked for the status of the FY 2008-2009 budget previously to Mayor Evans. Mayor Evans stated a FY 2008-2009 Budget would be forthcoming.

X. PROPOSAL FOR A NEW COMMITTEE

Councilwoman Benjamin distributed a copy of a proposal for a new committee stating that she does recognize that President Dr. Allen would be making all appointments for Standing Committee; however, she would merely like to propose the addition of a new committee (Children and Families Committee) to address issues focusing on children. During discussion, President Pro Tempore Williamson stated that committees are outlined in the Code and an ordinance would have to be done to make this addition and asked Attorney Nunn if he would prepare an ordinance to establish this committee to discuss on next Tuesday. Attorney Nunn concurred.

XI. FUNDING REQUESTS

Councilwoman Keith stated that she has received a lot of funding requests from people who needed to know "yesterday" if we could help fund, and people have heard a lot about the new Open Meetings Act that supplanted the "Sunshine Law", and there has also been some changes in the way that projects are funded too, even with discretionary funds. She further stated that she just want to mention that we have to really look at the things that we fund and the way that we fund things, being very "painfully" aware that we are having to tighten our belts with the budget, and really look at the funding requests, acknowledging that she will really have to become acquainted with the manner in which funding is used; things that have been funded previously are just not going to be able to fund any longer and ask people to be patient with the Council. Councilwoman Newton stated she concurs and suggests to task the Administrative Committee to develop a procedure of submission of a standard application for funding so that at least it would all look the

BUSINESS ITEMS:

same, and she is not necessarily proposing that a committee decides how the Council spends their discretionary funds, even though she does feel this would be amenable to her, but it could be looked upon on a grant cycle and it would train people to use the grants process and would help, "at least me feel more comfortable" with the requests for funding received. Councilwoman Crenshaw stated that some organizations have been around for a while, and "they ask for money and we give it to them because we know what they do"; and some are in your wards and some are not. She further stated that she is "not going to start, all of a sudden, putting a lot of paper before me", "I have enough to do" and she is definitely not going through any grant process or anything and if she knows that they are "501C" she can deal with that, but you "pretty much" have to know your people to give to them and she has asked other Council members to contribute to organizations based upon the fact that she knows them and they agree with her and she wants to make it as easy as possible.

XII. YOUTH AMBASSADORS

Councilwoman Crenshaw stated that the Selma Youth Ambassador's also need money, but she wants to the Council to take a look at what she has distributed to them and see what they do. She stated there were 125 young people to apply this year from City, County, Private and Public; and they are all wonderful children. Councilwoman Crenshaw further discussed the issue as per information given to the Council and thanked the Council.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

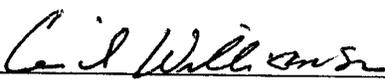
Attorney Nunn stated that, at this time, he would like to request that the Council would go into executive session for approximately 30 minutes for the purpose of discussing pending litigation. A motion was made by Councilman Tucker and seconded by Councilwoman Newton to recess into executive session at 8:41 p.m.

Following executive session, a motion was made by Councilman Tucker and seconded by Councilwoman Benjamin to reconvene from executive session at 8:57 p.m. A motion was made by Councilman Tucker and seconded by Councilman Randolph to give Attorney Nunn permission to proceed with litigation on the Sanders case. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a majority vote of the Council members present. There were six affirmative votes and one abstention. Councilwoman Keith abstained from voting and Councilwoman Crenshaw was absent from the Chambers during this vote.

CLOSING REMARKS BY EACH COUNCIL MEMBER.

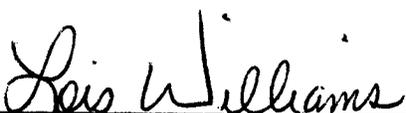
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, a motion was made by Councilman Bowie and seconded by Councilwoman Benjamin, to adjourn, and by unanimous consent of the Council, this meeting adjourned at 9:03 p.m.



DR. CECIL WILLIAMSON, *Council President Pro Tempore*

ATTEST:



LOIS WILLIAMS, *City Clerk*

APPROVED:



GEORGE PATRICK EVANS, *Mayor*